PFIC 34

R314

R 17589)1ZYRZOTUIV

BC-COUP-DACKO 1ST LD

BANGUI, SEPT 23) REUTER - PRESIDE[illegible]-DACKO, WHO

TOPPLED CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPEROR BOKASSA IN A BLOODLESS COUP

LAST WEEK, SAID TODAY THE DEPOSED DICTATOR HAD PERSONALLY

MURDERED CHILDREN IN A MASSACRE LAST APRIL.

"I HAVE DIRECT EVIDENCE THAT THE EMPEROR WENT AT NIGHT TO

BANGUI'S CENTRAL PRISON AND BASHED CHILDREN TO DEATH THERE IN

APRIL 18," SAID THE PRESIDENT OF THE RESTORED CENTRAL AFRICAN

REPUBLIC.

LAST MONTH A FIVE-NATION AFRICAN COMMISSION ACCUSED EMPEROR

BOKASSA, OVERTHROWN WHILE IN LIBYA JUST BEFORE MIDNIGHT

THURSDAY, OF ORDERING THE MASSACRE.

MORE 0952

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY RLCS DATE 10/25/92

RDS☐ or XD☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. DCA C(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING LABEL(S) ☐

DECLASSIFIED☐ DECLASSABLE☑

RELEASE DENIED☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

R315

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BC-COUP-DACKO 2 BANGUI

THE MASSACRE FOLLOWED DEMONSTRATIONS BY PUPILS AGAINST

COMPULSORY SCHOOL UNIFORMS.

THE COMMISSION SAID THE EMPEROR ALMOST CERTAINLY TOOK PART

IN THE KILLINGS AND QUOTED WITNESSES AS TELLING HOW HE GOUGED

OUT ONE BOY'S EYE WITH A SHARPENED CANE.

PRESIDENT DACKO MADE HIS CHARGE IN A SPEECH TO STUDENTS

AT THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, WHICH WAS GUARDED BY FRENCH COMBAT

TROOPS FLOWN IN AT HIS REQUEST AFTER THE COUP.

LEAFLETS WERE DISTRIBUTED IN BANGUI TODAY ASKING PEOPLE TO

STAY AT HOME FOR FEAR OF ACTION BY PRO-BOKASSA FORCES BACKED BY

LIBYAN MERCENARIES.

PRESIDENT DACKO SAID 37 LIBYAN TROOPS HAD BEEN ARRESTED

YESTERDAY BUT MANY MORE HAD ESCAPED AND GONE INTO HIDING.

"THE SITUATION IS DANGEROUS," MR DACKO SAID.

MORE 0954